

SPEAKERS AND PANEL MEMBERS

Thursday 19 October

Sally Brown is Senior Curator of Modern Literary Manuscripts at the British Library. Sally recently curated the Library's exhibition *A Particular English Music: John Betjeman 1906 – 1984*.

A S Byatt is the author of several novels, books of short stories and criticism. Her works are translated into at least 28 languages. Her last book was *The Little Black Book of Stories* (Chatto and Windus, 2003).

Richard Charkin is Chief Executive of Macmillan Publishers. In his spare time he is also Vice-President of the Publishers' Association, Chair of Common Purpose UK, Non-executive Director of the Wisden Group, a member of the Strategy Advisory Committee of the British Library, the UK Literary Heritage Group, the Center for Creative Business and Visiting Professor at the University of the Arts, London.

Clive Field is Director of Scholarship and Collections at the British Library and prior to that was Librarian and Director of Information Services at the University of Birmingham.

Chris Fletcher is Head of Western Manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, Oxford University. He previously worked as a curator of Literary Manuscripts at the British Library.

Rick Gekoski is a writer, rare book dealer, and academic. From 1971 – 1987 a member of the English Department of the University of Warwick, in the mid 1980s he started his business dealing in rare books and manuscripts of twentieth century English and American literature. His publications include a critical book on Joseph Conrad, the Bibliography of William Golding and, most recently, a collection of essays entitled *Tolkien's Gown and Other Stories of Great Authors and Rare Books*, which was based on his Radio 4 Series, *Rare Books, Rare People*.

Jeremy Leighton John is Curator of Digital Manuscripts in the Department of Western Manuscripts at the British Library, where he is adapting technologies and procedures for capturing, authenticating and making available the digital equivalent of the contemporary paper manuscript.

Arwel Jones is newly appointed to the post of Head of Digital Developments at the National Library of Wales, formerly Acquisitions Archivist and before that was the archivist with responsibility for literary archives at the Library. He has taken a particular interest in the fate of literary electronica. He has also published two travel journals and his poetry, essays and reviews appear regularly in many Welsh language publications.

Nicholas Kingsley is Head of National Advisory Services at the National Archives, where his team monitors archives being offered for sale and provides advice to owners and institutions on acquisitions and other matters.

Mark Le Fanu was in the Royal Navy and then practised as a lawyer. He has been General Secretary of the Society of Authors since 1982.

Ed Maggs is the managing director of antiquarian booksellers Maggs Bros Ltd, and is also in charge of modern literary matters, and, as A A Milne said 'Archives is what he likes best.'

Gerry McQuillan is Head of the Acquisitions, Export and Loans Unit of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. The Unit licenses items for export from the UK, manages the Reviewing Committee for the Export of Works of Art and runs the Acceptance in Lieu (AIL), scheme which is now one of the most important means of bringing archives and manuscripts into public ownership.

Andrew Motion was appointed as Poet Laureate in May 1999. He taught English at the University of Hull (1976 – 81) where he met Philip Larkin, whose biography he later wrote. He has recently been appointed Professor of Creative Writing at Royal Holloway, University of London. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and lives in London. His latest work, *In the Blood, A Memoir of my Childhood*, is published by Faber and Faber.



Peter Nichols's first major stage-play, *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*, was staged in Glasgow and London in 1967. Since then, his work has been staged in both the commercial and subsidized theatres in Britain, and many of his plays have subsequently transferred to Broadway and been adapted for the cinema. The British Library acquired the archive of Peter Nichols (with the generous support of the Friends of the National Libraries) in 1999.

Aongus Ó hAonghusa was appointed Director of the National Library of Ireland in January 2005. He had previously served as Acting Director from September 2003 and prior to that as Head of Administration in the National Library. He has spent over 25 years in the Irish civil and public service, working in a number of government departments prior to joining the National Library in late 2000.

Peter Porter moved to London from his native Australia in 1951, and his first collection of poetry *Once Bitten, Twice Bitten* was published ten years later. *Afterburner*, his most recent collection, was shortlisted for the 2004 T S Eliot prize. Peter Porter was one of the first living writers to sell some of his poetical notebooks to the national manuscript collection during the 1960s.

Owen Sheers was born in Fiji in 1974 and brought up in Abergavenny, South Wales. Owen's most recent collection of poetry, *Skirrid Hill*, won the 2006 Somerset Maugham award. Owen is a regular reader at the British Library, and has used its collections in the preparation for his first prose work, *The Dust Diaries* (Welsh Book of the Year 2005) and for his first novel, *Resistance*, to be published in 2007 by Faber.

David Sutton has been Director of Research Projects at Reading University Library since 1982, and is responsible for the Location Register literary manuscripts project and the WATCH copyright project. He received the Royal Society of Literature's Benson Medal in 2002, and the Scone Foundation's 'Archivist of the Year' award for 2006.

Susan Thomas at the Bodleian Library manages the Paradigm project, which is a JISC-funded initiative in collaboration with the John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester, to preserve the electronic papers of contemporary politicians.

Joan Winterkorn is Head of Archives and Valuations at Bernard Quaritch Ltd. She has valued and sold collections ranging from the John Murray Archives to the papers of Laurence Olivier, Muriel Spark and Francis Crick. Before joining Quaritch in 1979 she was the Rare Book Librarian at Cornell University.

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Bernard Quaritch Ltd

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Group for Literary Archives and Manuscripts

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